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02/18/1991 - EIU to introduce new registration system

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

ART TATE, Assistant Director, University Relations
Office: (217) 581-5983 - Home: (217) 348-7553

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EASTERN TO INTRODUCE NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM

CHARLESTON, IL.--Beginning March 4, Eastern Illinois University will begin using a new, state-of-the-art registration system for Summer Term 1991 and Fall Semester 1991 on-campus courses..

The new touch-tone registration system is expected to be more convenient for students and less costly for the University and will enable students to register for on-campus classes via a touch-tone phone. Off-campus classes will be added to the system later.

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ADD 1/1/1/1

TOUCH-TONE REGISTRATION

Eastern's Director of Registration Mike Taylor explained that touch-tone registration is a computerized system using the touch-tone phone as an entry terminal.

Students, after meeting with their advisor, could register and receive confirmation of their class schedule by using touch-tone telephones anywhere in the world, he said.

Previously, students had to return to campus for registration and wait in lines as their schedules were manually processed.

"The University's outdated registration system had been in place since 1974 and no longer served the needs of the University's students and faculty," Taylor said.

He noted, "Touch-tone registration will be a tremendous convenience for our students, especially adult students, student teachers and interns. It will also be an asset to University academic departments which will receive regular updates on how many students have registered and the departments can immediately determine if additional seats need to be added to a course or section."

"I anticipate the new system will also result in a cost-saving for EIU, especially because it is a 'paperless' system," Taylor added.

He explained that his office staff no longer will be overloaded when students register and revise schedules prior to the opening of the new semester.

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To register or add classes, students will be assigned a time-frame in which to call so that the phone lines will not be jammed. Class schedule bulletins will contain a worksheet and an explanation of the process. Students will use the new system to process adds, drops, and credit/no credit requests.

Taylor said students should complete the process in less than ten minutes if they plan their schedules and call early during their time frame.

Students will be required to pay an advance deposit (\$25 for summer, \$100 for fall or spring). The advance deposit is not an additional fee, but it will be applied to the student's bill for tuition and fees.

Taylor explained, "The advance deposit is required because the University is providing students with immediate confirmation of their classes. It also prevents frivolous registrations."

He encourages students to register early to obtain their desired class schedules. Students who wait until late in the registration period may not receive the classes they want and will be assessed a late fee of \$25. Students registering after these dates will be assessed a \$25 late fee: May 10 for Intercession; June 4 for eight- and five-week classes; and August 2 for Fall 1991.

The registration phone system will be available beginning March 4 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 6 to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday; and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The system is not available on holidays.

ADD 3/3/3/3

TOUCH-TONE REGISTRATION

Taylor said the new voice response system, especially designed for Eastern by existing University staff, has 20 phone lines available over an extended time period, so there should be no problem getting access to the system.